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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

METHOD, APPARATUS, AND PROGRAM FOR IMPROVING DATA MIRRORING PERFORMANCE IN A SCSI TOPOLOGY

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A silent mirroring protocol is provided, which eliminates the arbitration/selection times associated with all nexuses after the first nexus. During the initial SCSI bus negotiation, the initiator determines the transfer mode capability of all targets. The initiator establishes a group identification. Participants of the group recognize the group and look for an individual

10   identification within the group. The initiator performs arbitration/selection with attention to the leader of the group. The initiator uses a message out phase with a vendor command to select a participant for a data block transfer. Each participant snoops the bus and recognizes when it is the target. If the initiator has more data to mirror, the process is repeated. When the last data block is transferred, the initiator sends a message out to the last participant, which is interpreted by the target

15   leader as a command to release the bus. Each participant reselects the nexus initiator and returns a status.